

## COMMERCIAL CLUB BOOSTS BIG IDEAS

Your Help Needed to Get Favorable Action By Congress.

There was a meeting of the Commercial club on Monday evening and quite a few gathered to see what was on tap.

There were a number of communications read, one from the Portland Commercial club requesting the club to boost for the passage of a bill which provides for the opening up of the natural resources of the state. This was debated and when the fact was brought out that Mr. Pinchot was opposed to the measure there was no doubt as to the sentiment for the bill and there will be letters forwarded to the Oregon delegation in Congress to boost for the measure.

Another measure was in regard to the moneys received from the sale of O. & C. railroad lands being applied on irrigation projects in the state and this was also highly endorsed and the members of the club are requested to write to any one they may know in the east, and urge every person that can be reached to have the measure favorably acted on by Congress. The state has been robbed of its rights to the irrigation funds and this is a chance to get some of the stolen money back.

The matter of a corn show for this fall was brought up by Mr. Howard, who made a speech in favor of holding one this fall and stated that it would cost about five hundred dollars, which could be divided between the farmers interested, the county and the business men of Ontario.

It seemed to be the general opinion that the acreage of corn in this section is smaller this season than last, but in the Bend district it is larger, the cause of the falling off in acreage was laid to the small price of pork for a few months last fall, but the price of corn was good all season.

The matter was turned over to a committee to ascertain the sentiment of the business men.

It was reported that there were more entries for the races to be held at the Fair this fall than ever before and that it was so arranged that the cost was going to be comparatively light. A fine lot of horses have been entered.

Several other matters were discussed.

## HAS SOLD NINETY SECTIONS OF LAND

To the Stockmen of the Interior Counties.

W. J. Davidson, of the Oregon & Western Colonization company was here for a short time last week. He said the stock men of the interior are realizing more fully each year that they must own their range lands and are buying freely from his company. This year many sheep men have crowded over to the cattle sections and destroyed the ranges. It is only a question of time when all the public lands will be leased and the sheep men who have not lands of their own will be driven from the business. Many of the cattle and horse ranges have been destroyed in a night by some wandering sheep herder and there is little redress under existing laws so that the homesteaders frequently take the law in their own hands and give the herders a good drubbing, but the herder simply goes to another section and bothers there until driven out.

Mr. Curry, of La Grande, is a great booster for good roads. He says the La Grande people are paying particular attention to the auto travellers this season and so far they have averaged 20 cars a day, with an average of three people to the car and they leave on an average five dollars each, making \$300.00 a day. Ontario should go after that highway and get some of the tourist money.

## RAILROAD MAGNATES MEET BURNS PEOPLE

There was something going on in Harney county last week, but we cannot get the inside information, but believe this is about the situation:

William C. Ross, who is recognized as a Hill contractor, was there and offered to build a road from Crane to Burns and accept the Burns Bonds for the work, whenever they were ready to start.

President Farrell of the O. W. R. & N. C. was there to guard the interests of the Harriman people and Mr. Strahorn was around to see what he could do.

It is just possible that when work does start from Crane that there will be two lines constructed across the state as the Hill people have stated that when the Harriman people decided what route they wanted, then they, the Hill people, would get busy and build across another route.

## CONFIDENT OF THE ELECTION OF HUGHES

L. W. Hope, was a delegate to the meeting of the republicans at Portland last week and when he returned this week he was very enthusiastic over the prospects of the party making a clean sweep this fall. All of the people he met who had been in the east since election told him that the party had thrown off the yoke of the bosses and was going in to win straight tickets in all of the states. The progressives are getting back into line and will be found working hard to try and redeem the country from the democratic rule.

The meeting in Portland was very harmonious and the officers finally selected are acceptable to all, so that all old factions and differences are forgotten.

There will be a meeting of the county committeemen held soon and a line of work for the campaign decided upon.

## TWO MEN SAID TO HAVE BEEN THIRSTY

On Saturday morning Charles R. Lewis, a special watchman for the Oregon Short Line and O. R. Drane, the agent, saw two men go into a freight car. They followed them up and found some beer, which is supposed to be what the men took from the car as some beer was missing. The men are road employees and they were given a hearing before Recorder Stearns and bond over to the grand jury. Mr. Lewis stated that there had been quite a few small articles missed around the depot and the company had got tired and was determined to put a top to it.

## SOLDIERS EXPECT A SETTLEMENT SOON

Letters received from Wilmer Boyer indicates that the boys expect to be mustered out in a short time, if the Mexicans do not get gay again soon. He thinks it should not take over three months to clean up things. Many of the eastern men are complaining of not being cared for on the way to the border, some not having anything to eat for thirty-six hours.

## RUSSIA BUYING STEEL RAILS

Long negotiations of envoys of the czar have resulted in closing a contract with United States steel plants for \$22,000,000 worth of rails, the largest order of its kind in the history of American industry. So immense is the order, which forecasts a continuance of great trade relations with Russia after peace is concluded, it was necessary to divide it among four plants.

## LOCAL MERCHANTS MAKE MID-SUMMER OFFERINGS

Every Merchant Making a Special Effort to Interest You on Saturday and Monday.

Summer bargains are what the Ontario merchants are offering you this week.

Every store in the city is making a special effort to get you interested in their stocks on Saturday and Monday.

At this season many of the stores find they have odds and ends and broken lines that they wish to get rid of at any old price and they have hit on the plan of all making summer offerings at the same time and have designated Saturday and Monday, July 22 and 24 as the dates.

This is a rare opportunity for you to get something that you need for a fraction of what it is actually worth.

Some of the stores have enumerated the items that they are placing

on sale, others are telling you of the reasonable goods they are going to have on display for your approval and selection, while others have placed sale prices on everything in their stores.

This is the first mid season sale ever placed here, where every merchant was interested and made a special effort to get you interested.

Look over the advertisements in the Argus and see the many items enumerated that you can use to good advantage and note the low prices at which they are offered.

The Ontario band will have special music for the Saturday evening concert and every effort will be made to make your visit here pleasurable and profitable on those dates.

## EXCURSION TRIP SUNDAY TO SMITH'S FERRY BY O S L

The proposition published in the Argus for an excursion up the Payette river seemed to touch a popular chord and the Short Line has made the announcement that they will run a special train on Sunday next, leaving Ontario at 6:30 a. m. and go by way of Payette and Emmett.

They have also made the very liberal offer of a fare of two dollars for the round trip, with half fare for children under twelve years.

For the return trip the train will leave Smith's Ferry at 6 p. m. reaching Ontario about ten o'clock.

It is also being arranged for the base ball teams from Ontario and Payette to go along and play their game at the Ferry. Col. Joel Priest has sent word that he will have the diamond in first class shape. The band is also likely to be taken along as the boys want an outing.

The trip up the Payette is one of the grandest in the west, for over twenty miles the track is through a canyon, with timber covered moun-

tains on either side. There is practically one continuous fall or rapids in the river for the entire distance and the scene is one never to be forgotten.

It is said that trout are plentiful this year and the train will stop at any of the stations along the line and allow passengers to get off and will stop on the return to pick them up.

Smith's Ferry is a little opening between the hills, where there are cool, bubbling springs and fine boating and bathing in the river.

There is a hotel at the Ferry but you had better take a basket along, because many of the passengers will not do so and the hotel may not be able to care for the crowd.

There will be ample room on the cars for all who care to go.

For those who cannot go to the hills for the summer this is an opportunity to get a sniff of mountain air and a fill of mountain water. If you are lucky you may catch some fine trout from the river.

## MALHEUR LAKE LANDS NOT SWAMP LANDS

So the Supreme Court is Reported as Deciding.

Salem, Or., July 19.—In a communication to the state land board, Fred Otley, of Lawen, Harney county, asserts that Malheur Lake is not subject to appropriation by the Harney Basin Development company, for the reason that the supreme court has pronounced it a lake and not swamp lands.

The company has applied to the board for permission to drain the lake, and members of the board recently inspected the project to determine its feasibility. Otley declares that the supreme court, in the case of Cawfield vs. Smith, held that the lake was not marsh land and that the meander line owners own the property to the center of the lake bed. He says that under the decision its bed is owned by 150 meander line owners. The board directed the clerk to write Otley to the effect that it has not formally acted on the application of the company, and that before doing so it will consider the legal question presented by him.

Cultivators for sale at McDowell's Exchange Store.

## IRONSIDES HAS A WIND AND RAIN STORM

That Does Some Damage to Buildings.

Ironside, July 19.—The weather has been very warm of late, the thermometer registering 95 in the shade for several days. A very severe wind storm raged through the valley blowing down houses and trees and leveling hay and grain. A heavy rain fell here on Monday.

Walter Laurance of Prairie City spent the week end here purchasing hay for the winter, returning home on Monday.

A number of friends were entertained at the home of Ernie Locey on Saturday evening.

John Smith and family, Elmer Molthan and Mary Laurance spent Sunday at Picnic Boulder.

A large number motored to this vicinity on Saturday and Sunday spending their time hunting sage hens.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Hinton, Julia Smith and Bertha Carlisle motored to the home of H. C. Elms at Unity on Sunday and spent the day. A sumptuous dinner was served on the lawn and was enjoyed by some 30 visitors.

Mrs. Mc DeRoe is very ill with spotted fever.

## REV. BAKER GETS IN AN AUTO WRECK

There was a dust storm on Sunday afternoon. Rev. Baker had been holding services at the Mallett school house and was on his way home with Mr. Stewart when the dust storm struck them. They pulled off to one side of the road and stopped. Shortly after they heard the chug of a big machine coming and started the car to get farther off, but by the time they got the car in motion the big Stoddard Dayton with Berr Wood at the wheel loomed up and struck them on the left side, near the front wheel. The broken glass from the wind shield struck Rev. Baker over the eye and on the nose, also across one wrist, cutting to the bone, the wounds requiring several stitches.

The Ford is a wreck, but the Stoddard was not injured much and the other passengers escaped.

Rev. Baker is still sore from the shaking up, but the wounds are all healing nicely and no serious results are anticipated.

## CITY OFFICIALS LOOKING AFTER SANITATION

The health officers are going to make a round of the city an try to clean some things a little. There are several sidewalks needing repairs and nails are up in several blocks. Garbage cans are not being kept covered and many are not using metal ones, all of which is against the best interests of the city. The time for a general clean up is now before the epidemic that is killing so many in the east has a chance to get started here. The fly season is the time when epidemics flourish and those who do not care to contribute to the graveyard on the hill will see that the flies are taken care of.

## WANTS THE BONDS OF WARM SPRINGS

L. B. Wickersham, of Portland, representing one of the big bond buying firms, was here this week looking up the bonds to be issued for the construction of the Warm Springs reservoir and irrigation system. Apparently there is not going to be any trouble in selling these bonds when the work of organizing the district has been completed and the bonds placed on sale.

With the lands of the Malheur valley all supplied with a good water right the cultivated acres of the county will be materially increased.

With the bond market in good condition there should be no trouble with any of the irrigation and drainage propositions being financed and the work of construction started this fall.

## A NEW MAN IN FOR COUNTY CLERK

John Huston received his commission as postmaster last week and immediately handed in his resignation as clerk. The place was tendered to V. B. Staples the republican nominee for the place, but he declined because he thought it would be taking an undue advantage and preferred to wait and permit the people to elect him. The place was then tendered to W. H. Doolittle and he went up Monday and took charge. Deputy Clerk Moody resigned and John Wheeler was named as deputy.

Alfred Burcham cut the ends off three fingers on Friday afternoon.

Mr. Burcham has a planing mill on the east side and was sawing some lumber, D. P. Dearborn helping him. He got drowsy and let his hand fall across the saw and the ends of three fingers were taken off and the nail from the small finger.

Mr. Burcham said he frequently gets drowsy after his noon meal, but he will be careful to keep away from the saw next time.

## SHOULD BUILD ROAD TO THE SOUTH END

Of the County So The People Can Come Out to the Railroad.

J. R. Blackaby was called to Caldwell last week to go over the road from that point to Homedale and on to the Succor creek, where the Nitrate beds are located.

The idea is to make it a public highway from Caldwell to the Oregon state line and for the Malheur people to care for it from the state line south.

The nitrate people have built several miles of road from Homedale toward their mines and feel that the county should help out some, especially as the road will be the main travelled road to the southern part of the county and will save the Poison creek hill and several miles of gumbo, besides shortening the distance from Vale to the southern section of the county by about fifteen miles.

The nitrate people are building up Succor creek on the west side and thus will have no difficult grades or bad places. The road leaves the creek bottom at the rocky ford and from that point there is now a good road and one that can be travelled at all seasons of the year.

By the county officials ordering a few miles of road fixed up from the Owyhee bridge through Kingman colony and up the Snake river a few miles connection can be made with this highway at small expense.

The people of the southern part of this county are entitled to a road to the county seat and this will give it to them. The Watson section would no doubt use this road when fixed as it would be their best way out.

A. W. Garren has sold his lumber yard at Nampa to the Boise-Payette Lumber Co., and accepted a position with the new owners. Zan had a nice business but the big firm needed the yard.

## THE GAME WARDEN WANTS CO-OPERATION

In Protecting the Fish and Game of This Section.

H. L. Gray, who has been appointed game warden for this county, from some outside point, is located at Vale. Thus the local politicians are again robbed of a plum.

Naturally Mr. Gray wants the local people to all take out licenses and swell the state funds for the benefit of some other part of the state. He has no plans for stocking any of the streams or fields and was much surprised to learn that there were a few bass in the Snake.

We cannot understand why a local man could not be found who knows something about local conditions to look after the few birds and fish we have, and who could make an intelligent talk to the game commission for some fish to stock the Snake and other streams of the county and also for a few quail and chinas for the uplands.

This man Gray may be all right but we are opposed to hiring outside men with Malheur county license money and we believe most of the hunters and fishermen will feel the same way about it.

The general desire of almost every man who likes to fish and hunt is to care for the game, only a few are naturally game hogs and do not think far enough to care whether there are any left for the other fellow. Game and fish are a big card for any section and today they have more deer and birds in the woods of the New England states than we have here, simply because the people there are caring for them.

If you expect to do any fishing or hunting you had better take out a license because it is cheaper than paying a fine and some of the money may be used to bring in some young bass, trout, pike, mud cats or other fish suited to our streams.